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CONSTABLE May Walker PRECINCT 7 HARRIS COUNTY, TEXAS

MAIN OFFICE 5290 Griggs Road Houston, Texas 77021 (713) 643-6118 (713) 643-3428 FAX (713) 643-6602 Pct. 7 Dispatch

• WEBSITE: www.hctx.net/conpct7

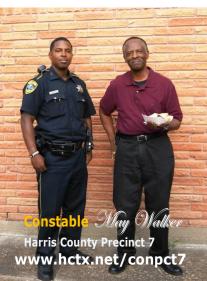
CONSTABLE MAY WALKER'S PRECINCT 7 NEWSLETTER

Volume 21

Creating Safer Communities Through Awareness, Prevention, and Preparedness







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Chief Editor and Writer Layout/Graphics Photographer

Pamela Greenwood

Contributors:

Anna Carriere, editing

FROM THE DESK OF THE CONSTABLE



In 2013, it was very disheartening to watch the local news on television or read about it in the newspaper. Every other story was about someone being victimized or murdered. Now that we have entered a new year we must learn from past mistakes in order to move forward.

After years of experience as a patrol officer with HPD (Houston Police Department), I can honestly say that criminology is a major part of my life. The lessons learned on these tough Houston streets have become valued assets to my current position as Constable. Not only have these lessons been passed on to law enforcement officers now under my leadership but also to my loyal constituents. However, the power that you gain when you arm vourself with knowledge is irrelevant if it is not used.

In 2014, I am calling on you to assist local law enforcement agencies in the quest of reclaiming our streets, communities, and neighborhoods by refusing to be bullied and victimized by criminals. The fact is most unlawful acts committed are crimes of opportunity. There are effective ways of making your personal property, home, and neighborhood less attractive to the criminal element.

Believe it or not, in this high tech, computerized society that we live in the best way to deter crime is quite old fashion. Statistics show that the safest areas throughout the United States are comprised of people who simply look out for each other and who consistently report strange and unusual activity to the proper authorities.

For residents living in transitional neighborhoods or rural areas; I strongly recommend being vigilant. It is also imperative to familiarize yourself with all of the programs available to you that help reinforce your safety plans.

Precinct 7 programs like Patrol Alerts, Vacation Watch, and See Something Say Something are designed to help constituents take the guess work out of having police related issues addressed and resolved. Area residents may find out more about these programs and how they work by visiting our website www.harriscountytx.gov/conpct7.

Remember, the most effective way for us to end crime is by working together. I urge you to get to know your neighbors and if you see anything or anyone suspicious or out of the ordinary, report it to the proper authorities. Not reporting crime only encourages it.

Constable May Walker's Law Enforcement Scholarship Golf Classic

Constable May Walker hit a "hole in one" with the success of the 2013 Law Enforcement Scholarship Golf Classic. The event was held at the beautiful Wildcat Golf Club.

The proceeds of this tournament help underwrite a four year college scholarship that Constable Walker currently provides to Raishell Bonard who is a first year student at Texas A&M University, majoring in Forensic Science. Raishell is a Jack Yates Sr. High School graduate.

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For information how you can support or participate in the 2014 Law Enforcement Scholarship Golf Classic, please contact event organizer:

Pamela Greenwood PH 713.274.3518 EMAIL pamela.greenwood@cn7.hctx.net







Tournament attendees, volunteers, and participants wore pink in support of Breast Cancer Awareness Month.





Upcoming Precinct 7 Events Chief Goree Anderson

We appreciate your support!

Constable May Walker's Law Enforcement Scholarship is intended to provide assistance to two students who have

expressed an interest in a career in Law Enforcement. It awards two (2) four-year scholarships to students who live in and attend a high school located within the Precinct 7 jurisdiction. The two scholarships include tuition and a book voucher for the fall and spring semesters. Parents or students are financially responsible for courses taken during the summer months.

The objective of the Constable May Walker Criminal Justice Law Enforcement Scholarship is to offer the opportunity to a student who has expressed the desire to pursue higher education in the field of law enforcement but unable to do so because they are financial constraints.

Raishell Bonard, the current scholarship

Precinct 7 Bigger

Better Job Fair (Free and Open to the Public)

Tuesday, May 6, 2014 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Third Ward MSC Auditorium129 3611 Ennis Street Houston, Texas 77004

Great Variety of Job Opportunities!

Employers interested in participating call: 713-274-3518

Sign up Today!

Constable May Walker's Law Enforcement Scholarship **Golf Classic**

Saturday, October 4, 2014 **At Wildcat Golf Club** 12000 Almeda Houston, Texas

For more info call 713-274-3518

Constable May Walker Law Enforcement Scholarship Program

recipient, is a graduate of Jack Yates Senior High School. Raishell had her heart set on attending Texas A&M University but had no way of affording it on her own. Thanks to the Constable May Walker Criminal Justice Law Enforcement Scholarship Program and program contributors, she is currently enrolled at Texas A&M pursuing a major in Forensic Science.



Raishell Bonard and Constable Walker speaking in front of golfers at the Constable May Walker Law Enforcement Scholarship Golf Classic. Proceeds from this event help underwrite the scholarship program.

Duties and Responsibilities of Harris County Constable Precinct 7

Writ of Mandamus

Harris County Constable Precinct 7 is a law enforcement agency that has the responsibility of, but is not limited to, patrolling and responding to emergency and non-emergency calls within the geographical boundaries in its contracted areas. Precinct 7's ultimate responsibility is serving civil papers that are issued through the offices of the Justices of Peace (Positions One and Two) and county, district, and federal courts. A writ of mandamus is one of the many types of papers served by law enforcement officials of Harris County Constable Precinct 7.

A writ is fundamentally a lawful, written document handed down by a court ordering a person to take a particular action or to prohibit a particular action.

A writ of mandamus offers one exception to this rule. If a party to a case is dissatisfied with some decision of the trial court, the party may appeal the decision to a higher court with a petition for a writ of mandamus before the trial continues.

A writ or order of mandamus is an extraordinary court order because it is made without the benefit of full judicial process, or before a case has concluded. It may be issued by a court at any time that it is appropriate, but it is usually issued in a case that has already begun.

A writ of mandamus will be issued "only to correct a clear abuse of discretion of a duty imposed by law when there is no other adequate remedy by law."

LIFE IS SWEET!

There is nothing more sweet than life, not even candy. So, protect your life and the lives of your loved ones by ensuring that everyone in the car is buckled up.

Wearing a seatbelt could be the difference between life and death. Every 15 seconds, someone is injured in a traffic crash. If you are not buckled up, you could be thrown through a window, sent skidding along the pavement or be crushed under a vehicle in a crash. Save yourself a trip to the hospital or better yet, live.

Wearing a seat belt is not just a good idea, it is the law and breaking it could require you to face the hassle of a court date and/or a fairly hefty fine. So, remember to Click It Or Ticket!











In the Spotlight

Precinct 7 Employees of the Year



At the end of each year Constable May Walker designates three outstanding members of her staff "Employees of the Year". Precinct 7 has many exceptional employees, however, the hard work and dedication of Carol Lewis, Deputy Dao Nguyen, and Captain Lionel Aaron could not go unrecognized.

Constable Walker and Chief Goree Anderson presented the magnanimous trio plaques while in the presence of fellow co-workers and community members during the agency's annual Christmas party.



Deputy of the Year

Deputy Dao Nguyen of the Warrant Division, takes pride in performing his job each day and his loyal commitment to the department, fellow coworkers, and Precinct 7 community is commendable. However, characteristics of humbleness, kindness, and impartiality are what make Dao Nguyen an outstanding deputy.



Employee of the Year

Carol Lewis, of the Pct. 7 Communications Division earns the distinction of Civilian Employee of the Year for punctuality, having a keen eye for detail, possessing the ability to be a team player, and having the willingness to help whenever needed.



Supervisor of the Year

Not only does **Captain Lionel Aaron** have an outstanding work ethic, he uses his calling, the ministry, to support, counsel, and assist fellow co-workers during times of need. Captain Aaron possesses extraordinary leadership abilities, he is fair and impartial, and truly a valued asset at Precinct 7.



Constable May Walker, Deputy Dao Nguyen, and Chief Anderson



Constable May Walker, Carol Lewis, and Chief Anderson



Constable May Walker, Captain Lionel Aaron, and Chief Anderson

Building Safer Communities takes Teamwork!



Residents of Harris County Precinct 7 gathered in driveways, church parking lots, area schools, and other facilities in support of Houston's 30th Annual National Night Out, Tuesday, October 1, 2013.

National Night Out (NNO) is a unique crime/drug prevention event sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch. It is designed to:

- Heighten crime and drug prevention awareness;
- Generate support for, and participation in, local anticrime programs;
- Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police/ community partnerships;
- Send a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

Harris County and Houston area residents typically observe National Night Out on the first Tuesday in October. If you missed NNO last year make it a resolution to attend it this year. Until then, these basic actions can be used by you and your neighbors in order to help deter criminal activity in your area:

- Residents are encouraged to **be alert** and report things that may attract a criminal element, such as non-functioning street lights and overgrown vacant lots.
- Becoming familiar with your neighbors is an important aspect to having a safe neighborhood. By knowing your neighbors and frequently interacting with them they are more likely to **be aware** of and pay attention to suspicious activities at or near your home.
- Residents are encouraged to be careful and not take the law in their own hands. If you notice anything out of the ordinary or suspicious, report it to the proper authorities and let them handle it.

2013 National Night Out









Harris County Constable Precinct 7 5290 Griggs Road Houston, Texas 77021 PH 713-643-6118 24 Hour DISPATCH: 713.643.6602 Website: www.hctx.net/conpct7

> Be Alert! Be Aware! Be Careful!

Precinct 7 Programs and Services

Crime Victim Assistance Program

The Precinct 7 Crime Victims Assistance Program is governed by the Crime Victim Assistance Act and Regulations. Under the act, victims injured as a result of certain crimes, immediate family members of an injured or deceased victim and some witnesses may be eligible for **free** services, financial assistance, or benefits. **For more information call, Pct. 7 Victims Assistance (713)274-3521.**

Domestic Violence Deputy Program

The **Harris County Precinct 7 Domestic Violence Deputy Program** offers assistance to victims of **domestic abuse**, also referred to as **intimate** partner violence, by responding to their emotional and physical needs and by providing them with safety and security. In addition, the Precinct 7 Domestic Violence Deputy dedicated to helping victims find stability in their lives after victimization, and by assisting them in understanding and maneuvering the criminal justice system. For more information call, (713)274-3519.

Environmental Deputy Program

Harris County Constable May Walker appointed a Precinct 7 Deputy to work closely with the City of Houston Neighborhood Protection Program to monitor: trash dumping, high weeds, graffiti, abandoned cars and houses, and other nuisances in the community. Eligibility: All residents of Pct. 7 call (713)274-3540.

Senior Inspection Program

This program provides a basic home security check for senior citizens. We point out the importance of having adequate door locks, window locks, working smoke detectors, and working carbon monoxide detectors. **Eligibility:** All senior citizens 65 or older in Pct. 7.

Senior Citizen Hotline

Volunteers staff the Hotline and place daily calls to Seniors in Precinct 7 to make sure they feel safe and to let them know they are not forgotten. This program provides an opportunity for concerned citizens to call in and identify seniors who may have serious problems or concerns. Senior Citizen Hotline PH (713)274-3537.

Precinct 7 Patrol Alert

To report criminal activity or request that we pay specific attention to any on-going nuisance or anything that might seem suspicious and out of the ordinary residents can **visit the Precinct 7 website** and fill out the computer generated patrol alert form or **call (713)643-6602.** For emergencies, call 911.

Precinct 7 Vacation Watch

This is another free service that Precinct 7 provides to area residents to help prevent burglaries or break-ins while away from their homes for extended periods. Also found on the Precinct 7 website or call **(713)-643-6602.**

Website: www.hctx.net/conpct7



Precinct 7 deputies are encountering an increased number of motorist driving while under the influence of alcohol. Drunk drivers seriously threaten the safety of Harris County roads and highways.

Alcohol and driving do not mix and have proven to be a deadly combination for thousands of innocent victims as well as those driving while under the influence. According to recent statistics found on the MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Drivers) website, in 2012, 10,332 people in the United States were killed in drunkdriving crashes – one every 51 minutes. Texas leads the nation with 1,296 of those crashes occurring within its boundaries. What is worse, Harris County, now recognized as the drunk driving capital, lost 175 lives in 2012, to fatalities involving drivers with a BAC (Blood Alcohol Content) of .08 or higher.

Despite popular beliefs, the consumption of one alcoholic beverage can impact a driver's ability to operate a motor vehicle properly. Most people begin to feel the effects of alcohol when their BAC ranges between 0.03 and 0.059. Based on scientific research, one American standard drink will, on average, produce a BAC of about 0.02, and most light and moderate drinkers will feel some subtle effects at this level. Although slight, this effect is just enough to impair a driver's reaction time when behind the wheel of a vehicle.

In order to make Harris County roads and highways safer, motorist must become responsible and stop getting behind the wheel of vehicles after consuming alcohol. For those who understand the importance of not driving after having a drink, **MADD** give the following tips on how to spot drunk drivers and what to do if you encounter one.

Signs that indicate a motorist is driving while under the influence of alcohol:

- Quick acceleration or deceleration
- Tailgatin
- Weaving or zigzagging across the road
- Swerving
- Driving anywhere other than on a road designated for vehicles
- Almost striking an object, curb, or vehicle
- Stopping without cause or erratic braking
- Drifting in and out of traffic lanes
- Signaling that is inconsistent with driving actions
- Slow response to traffic signals (e.g. sudden stop or delayed start)
- Straddling the center lane marker
- Driving with headlights off at night
- Driving slower than 10 mph below the speed limit
- Turning abruptly or illegally
- Driving into opposing traffic on the wrong side of the road

If you encounter a motorist who appears to be driving while under the influence:

- Stay as far away from the other vehicle as possible
- Do not try to pass the vehicle or signal the driver to pull over. Doing so could result in a collision.
- Take notice of the license plate number along with details of the vehicle including make, model and color. However, make sure you do not compromise your own safety trying to obtain this information.
- Pull over and call 911. Give the exact location
 of the vehicle, including the name of the road
 or cross streets and the direction the vehicle is
 traveling. Give a complete description of the
 vehicle and the manner in which the vehicle is
 being driven.

Constable May Walker (2nd from the left) with members of her staff



Members of the organization, Ministers Supporting Precinct 7









Giving Back to the Precinct 7 Community

Thanksgiving Outreach

Harris County Precinct 7 Constable May Walker and the Ministers Supporting Precinct 7 hosted their 9th Annual Thanksgiving Outreach Program, Tuesday, November 26, 2013, in front of the Harris County Precinct 7 Main Office.

One-hundred fifty (150) area senior citizens received free turkeys thanks to generous contributions from the Precinct 7 Constable, her staff, and community partners. The Houston Food Bank also provided approximately 10,000 lbs of fresh fruit and vegetables to seniors and other financially disadvantaged individuals.

The Precinct 7 Thanksgiving Outreach event coordinator starts accepting calls from area seniors citizens in need on the last Monday in August of each year. Eligible candidates must live within Precinct 7 boundaries and be 65 years of age or older.

The Precinct 7 Thanksgiving Outreach Program continues to grow each year with added participants like the Houston Food Bank, Area Agency on Aging, ABC Family Dentistry, and Texans YMCA.

Christmas Outreach







"From what we get, we can make a living; what we give, however, makes a life." ~ Arthur Ashe

Precinct 7 Deputies, civilian employees, and the group of clergymen Ministers Supporting Precinct 7, were greeted with smiles and tears of joy as they delivered gift boxes overflowing with food and toys for the children of 5 (five) area families in need.

Families benefitting from the Precinct 7 Christmas Program this year were selected based on recommendations made Arnette King of the Head Start Program at Bastian Elem. School. In addition to toys and games provided by Constable May Walker, 6 (six) of the 22 children received brand new bicycles purchased by Precinct 7 deputies. A portion of the food supplied was donated by our community partner, Houston Food Bank.









